

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 13 as follows:

B1  
In commercial establishments such as hotels, motels, university dormitories, schools, etc. furniture has a predictable or pre-planned useful life, after which it is typically discarded. Discarded furniture often is disposed of in landfills, using valuable landfill space. Thus, there is a need for providing a modular furniture system in which each of the modules, and/or the upholstery covers, may be easily replaced to prolong the life of the furniture.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 18 as follows:

B2  
Referring to FIGs. 3 and 4, at least four portions of the aligning receptacle brackets 34 are located on the spring nest 26 or the sleeper module 28. While the following discussion describes the spring nest 26, it is to be understood that the sleeper module 28 is configured for engagement upon the frame 12 in the same way. Two rear brackets 34a are located on each side of the spring nest 26 near the rear of the unit, and two front brackets 34 are located on the front of the spring nest near each side of the unit. The rear brackets 34 should be mounted so that the bracket notch 35 (best seen in FIG. 5) will align with the stud member 32a when the spring nest 26 is held at an inclined angle to the base frame 12, with the back of the nest toward the base frame 12 best seen in FIG. 3. As is the case with all of the stud members 32 and the receptacle brackets 34, the aligning receptacle brackets 34a are preferably an integral part of the spring nest 26, and may alternatively be attached as a

B2  
separate piece to the spring nest or the frame 12. In the preferred embodiment, the aligning receptacle bracket 34a is mounted to the outside of the spring nest 26. The front aligning receptacle brackets 34 on the spring nest 26 are of similar construction, but are arranged such that the bracket notch 35 will align with the stud member 32 when the bracket is placed on the stud from above.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 20 as follows:

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B3  
Two additional front stud members 32b are mounted at the front member 14 of the base frame 12. The front stud members 32b are preferably mounted at each end of the front member 14 to provide stability to the spring nest 26. A front corner bracket 38 is preferably provided to support the junction of the frame front member 14 with the side members 14 and 16. In addition, the front corner bracket 38 secures the stud members 32b to the inside of the base frame 12 at the intersection of each of the first side member 16 and the second side member 18 with the front member 14. Thus, the bracket 38 includes stud members 32b which project at right angles to each other from corresponding ~~right-right-~~angled panels 38a, 38b (seen in FIG. 7).

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 6 as follows:

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B4  
The corresponding stud members 32c, and 32d are preferably mounted on the base frame 12 or, in the case the stud member 32c, on one of the arm modules 22, 24. Again,

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for stability, it is preferable to mount the stud members 32c and 32d with one toward the front of the furniture article 10 and one stud member toward the back of the article. When mounting the front stud member 32d, it is preferable to mount it on the side member 16 of the base frame 12, oriented such that the stud is projecting toward the outside of the base frame 12. In the preferred embodiment shown, the stud member 32d is a part of the front corner bracket 38. However, the front stud member 32d may also be a part of or attached to the spring nest 26, the sleeper module 28 or any other location that will give sufficient support to the arm member 22. Similarly, the rear stud member 32c may be attached to or an integral part of the side member 16 of the base frame 12, the spring nest 26, the sleeper module 28 or the backrest module 40. Preferably, a rear stud member 32c is attached to each of the first and second sides 41, 42 of the backrest module 40.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 3 as follows:

Referring now to FIGS. 2-6, the backrest module 40 is mounted to the base frame 12 by a backrest fastener assembly on each side of the base frame (shown best in FIG. 5). This assembly includes opposing sheath brackets 43 on the base frame 12 and the backrest module 40. The opposing sheath brackets 43 define a chamber, into which is inserted a blade-like bar or blade 44 configured for insertion into the chamber. It is contemplated that the combination of sheath brackets 43 and the bar 44 may be used to secure other of the modules 22, 24, 26, 28 to the base frame 12, and/or to each other, depending on the application.